

# CHRC

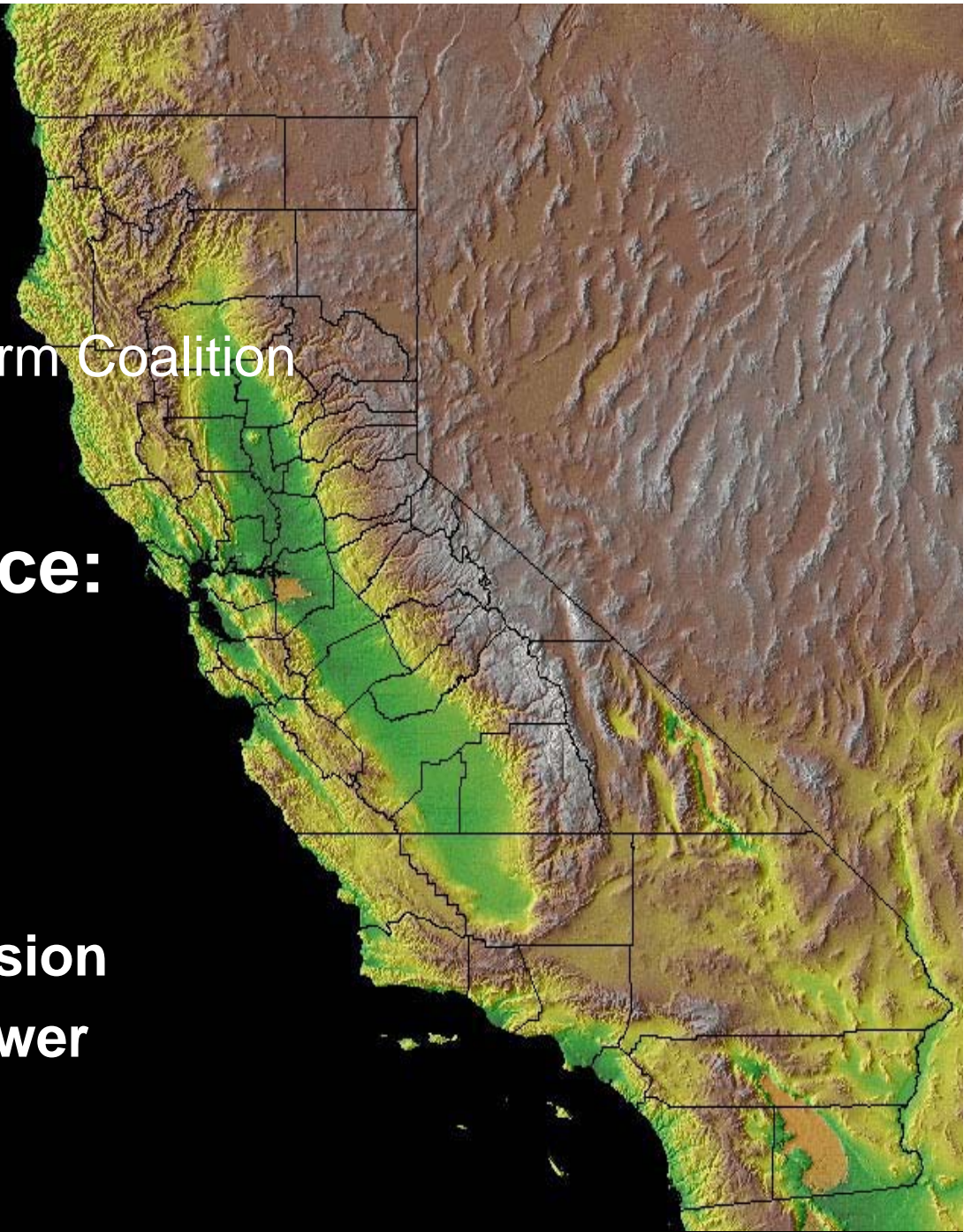
California Hydropower Reform Coalition

## **Restoring the Balance: Hydropower and California's Rivers**

**California Energy Commission  
IEPR Workshop - Hydropower**

June 5, 2003

Sacramento, California



# CHRC

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California Hydropower Reform Coalition

American Rivers

American Whitewater

California Outdoors

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

California Trout

Foothill Conservancy

Friends of the River

Natural Heritage Institute

Trout Unlimited



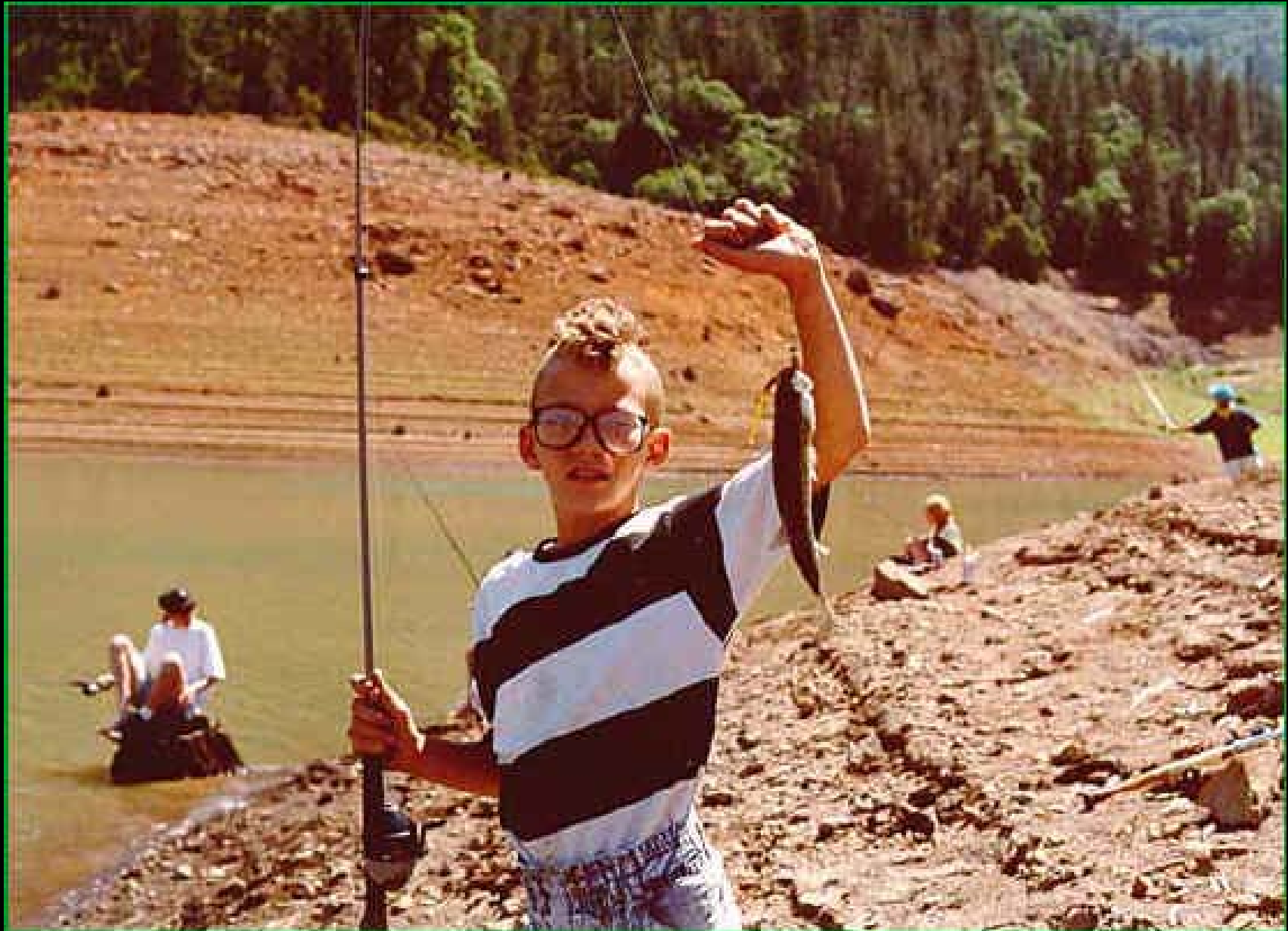


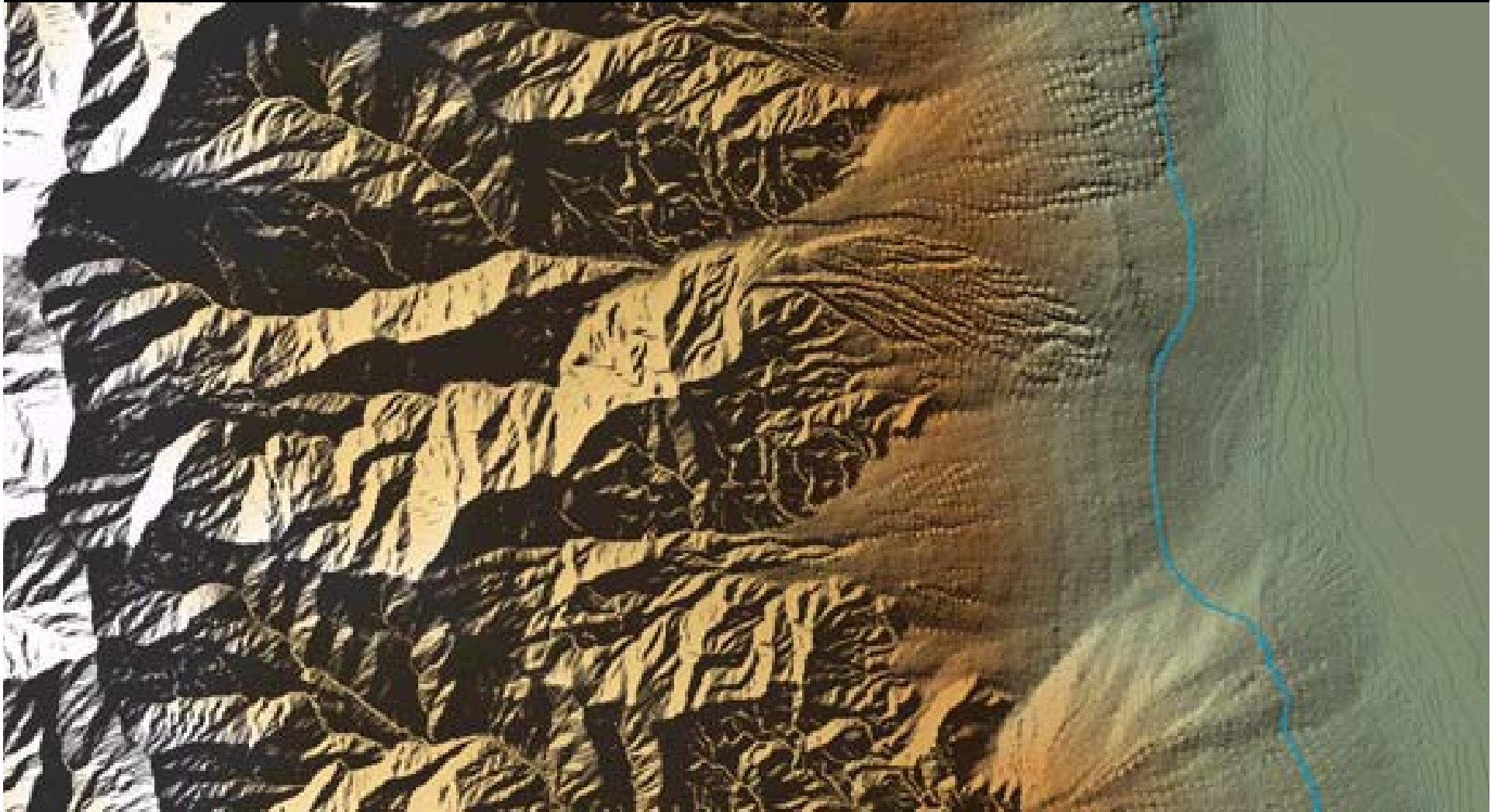




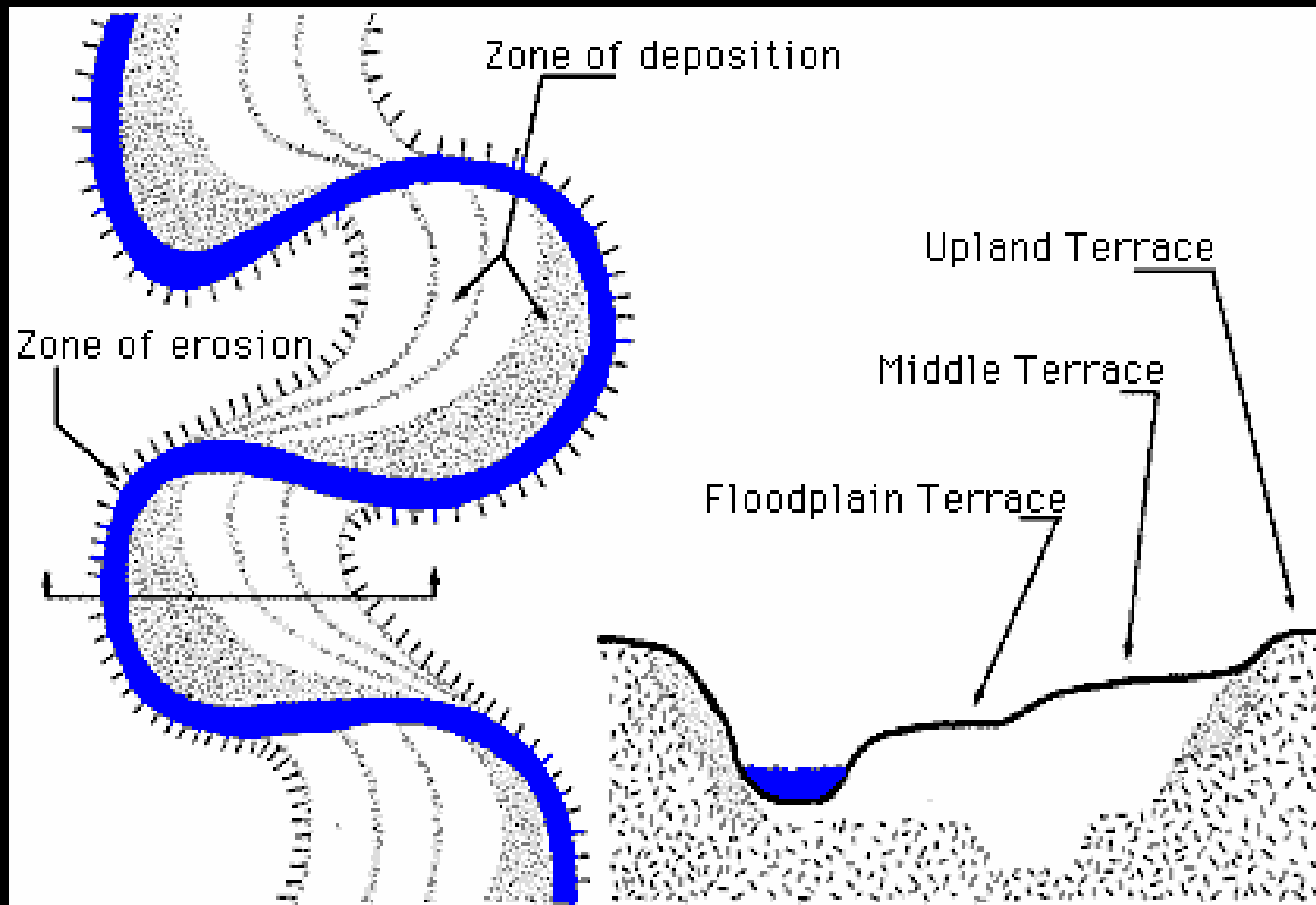






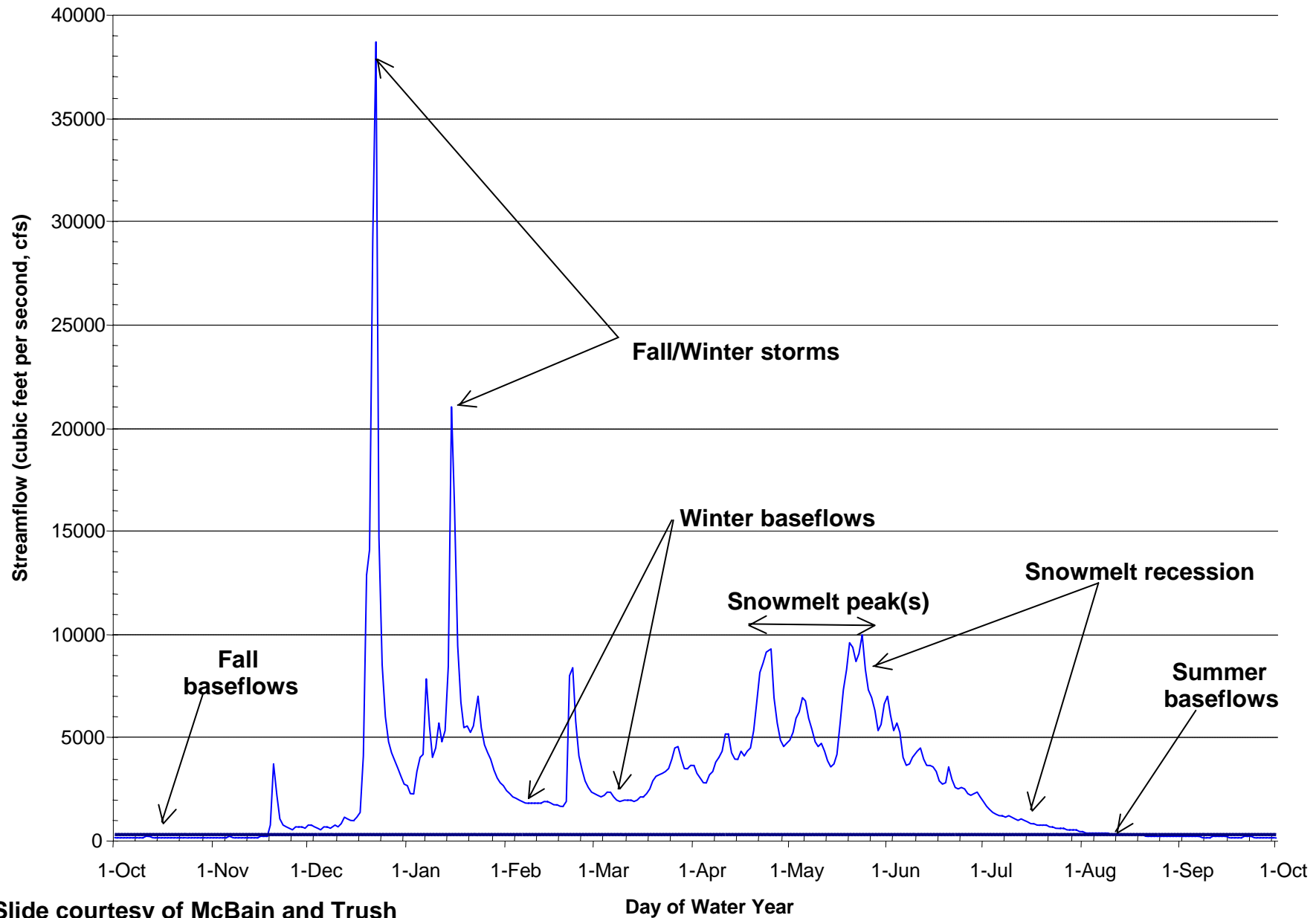


# Flow variability creates river habitat

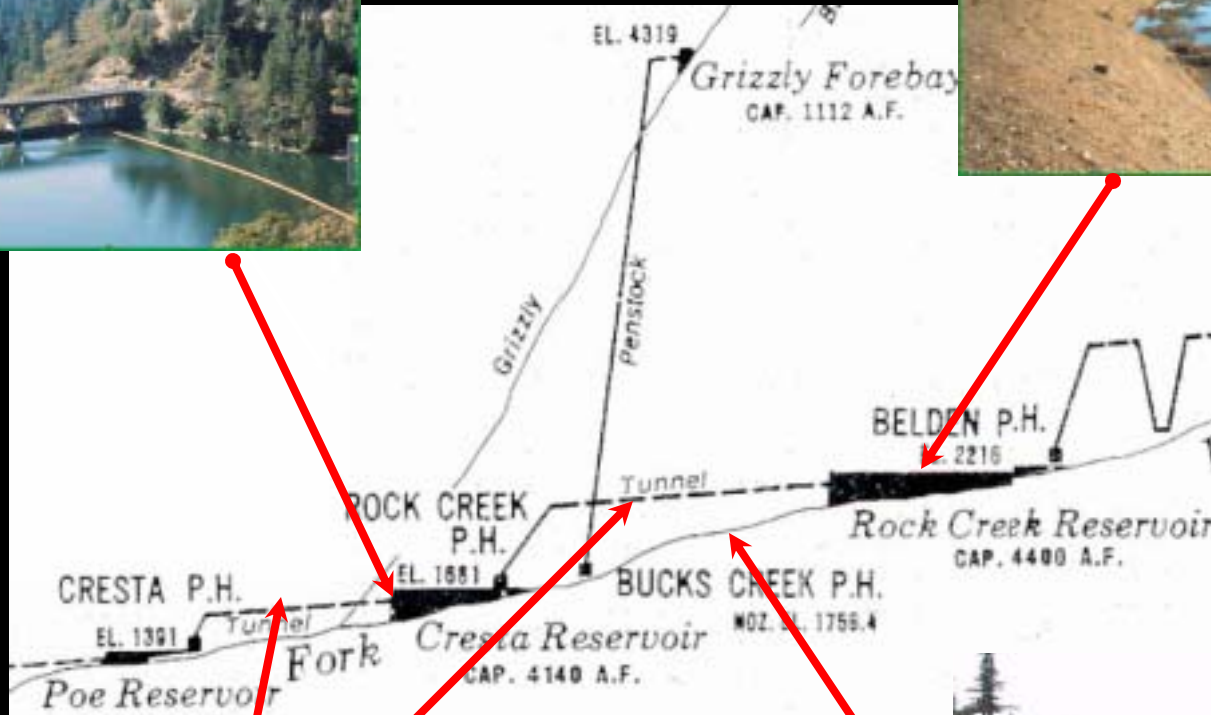




# Characteristics of a Natural Hydrograph: Variability



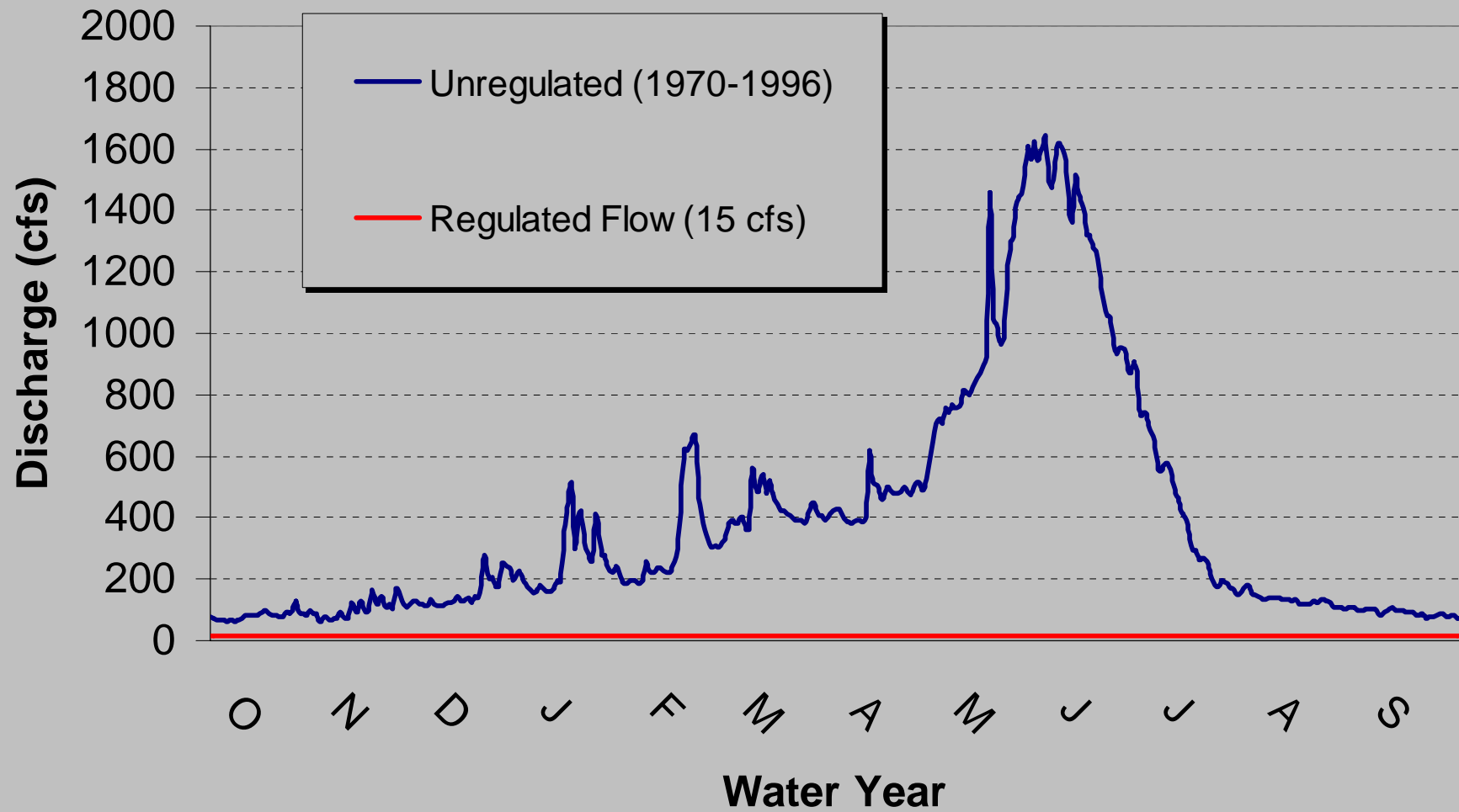
# Typical California Hydropower Project



Pictures are representative of mapped project features.

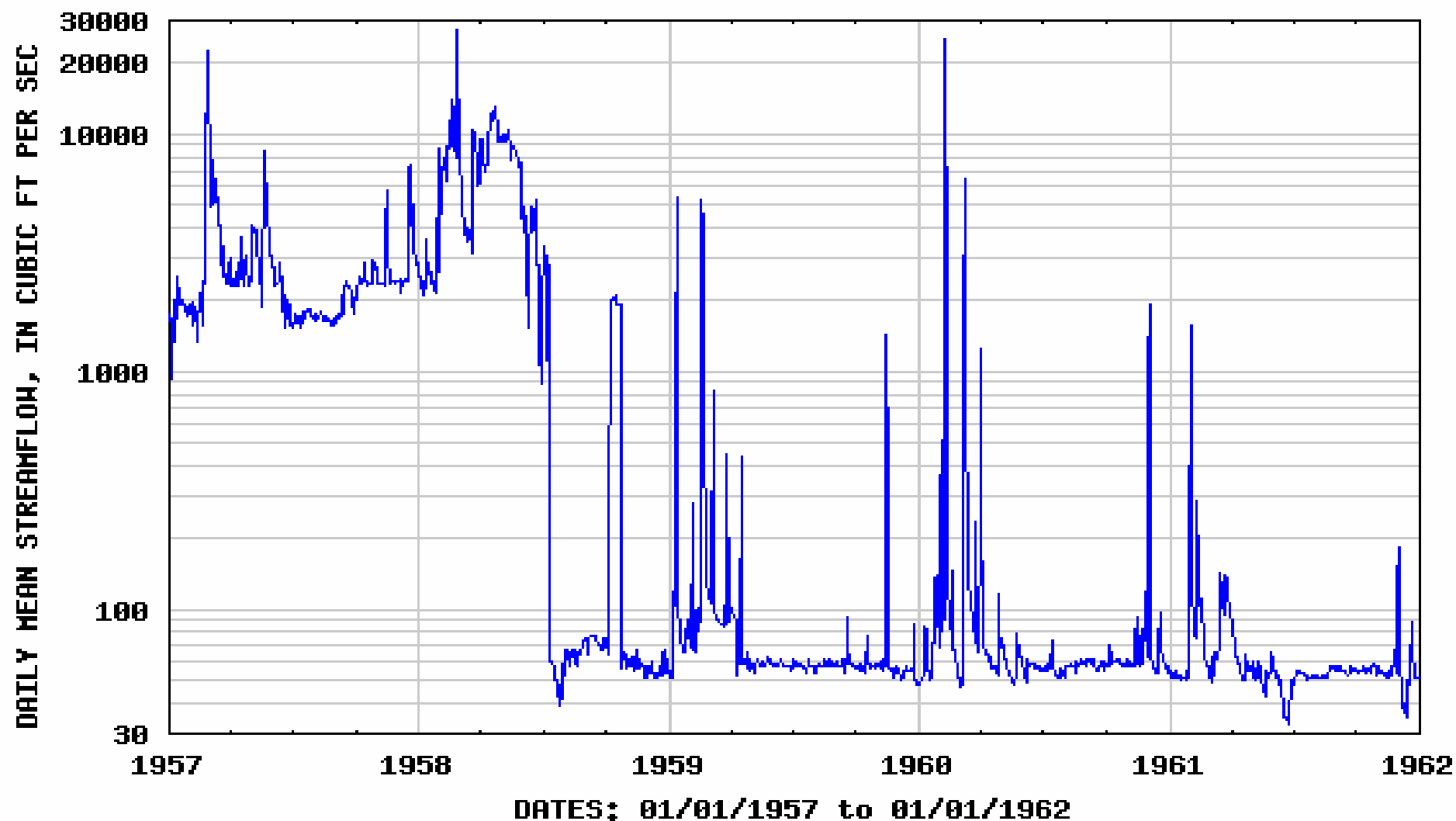


## North Fork Mokelumne River





## USGS 11404500 NF FEATHER R A PULGA CA





## **Pit River**

**Pit 3 bypass reach: 150 cfs**

**Historic summer flow: 2000 cfs**

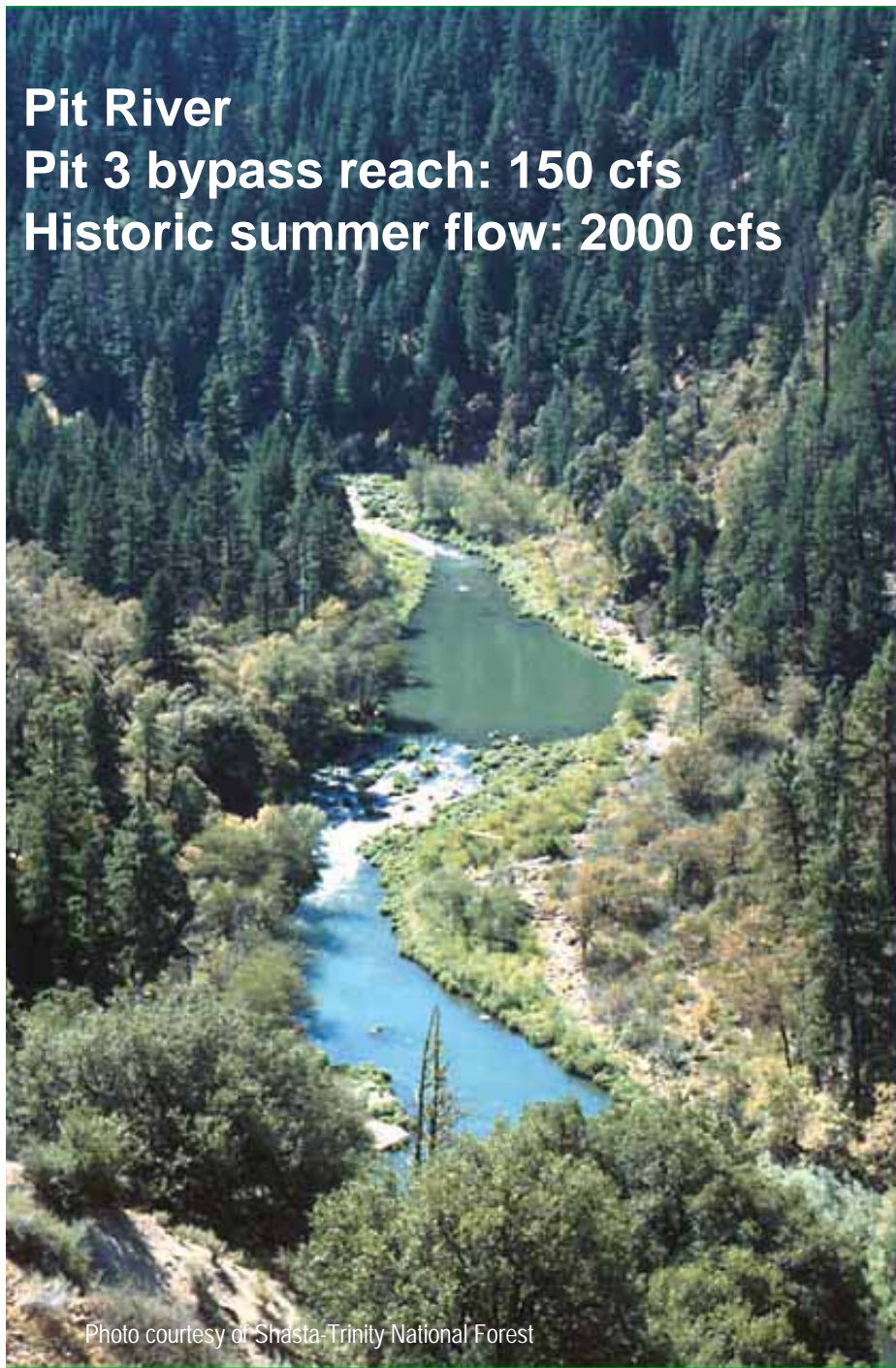
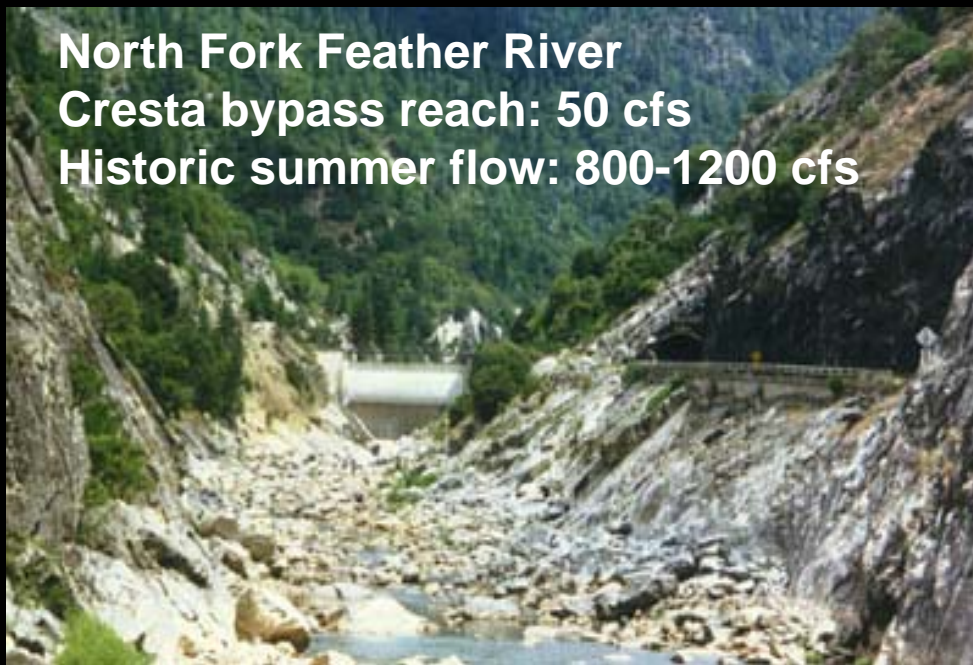


Photo courtesy of Shasta-Trinity National Forest



## **Pit 3 diversion tunnel**

**Diameter: 19 feet Capacity: 3315 cfs**



## **North Fork Feather River**

**Cresta bypass reach: 50 cfs**

**Historic summer flow: 800-1200 cfs**

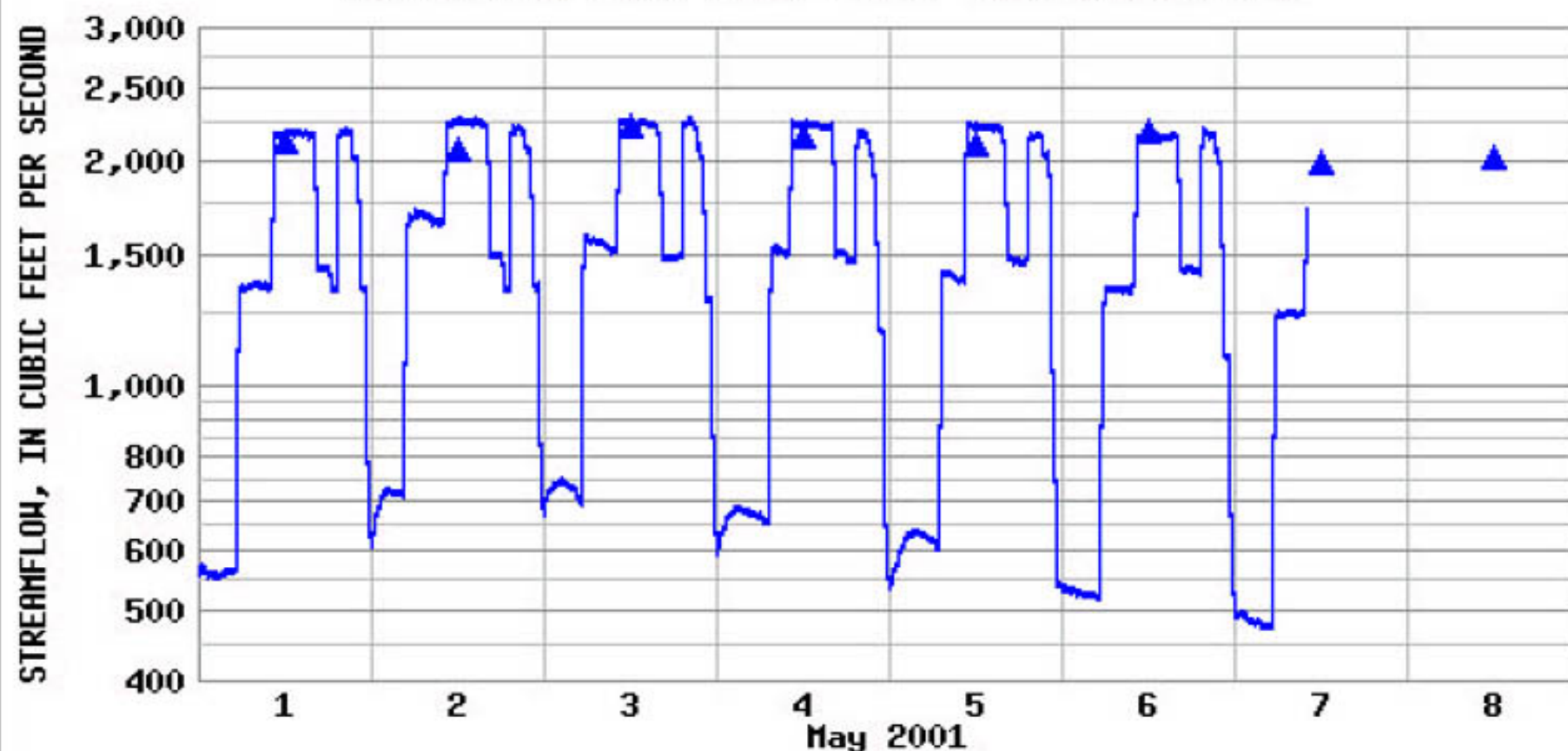








# 11355010 Pit R B1 Pit 1 Powerhouse



Mon May 7 11:15 2001

— STREAMFLOW

▲ MEDIAN DAILY STREAMFLOW,  
based on 24 years of record

**Provisional Data Subject To Revision**



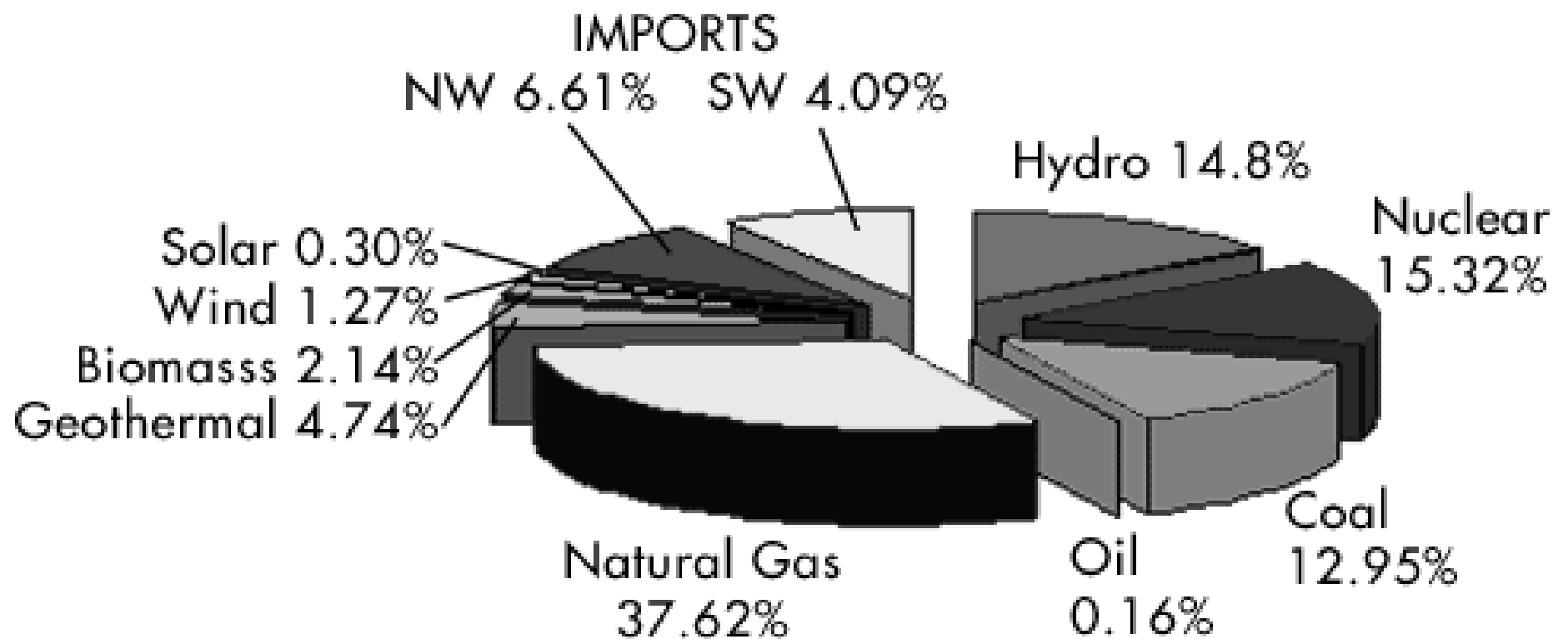
Map courtesy of CPUC



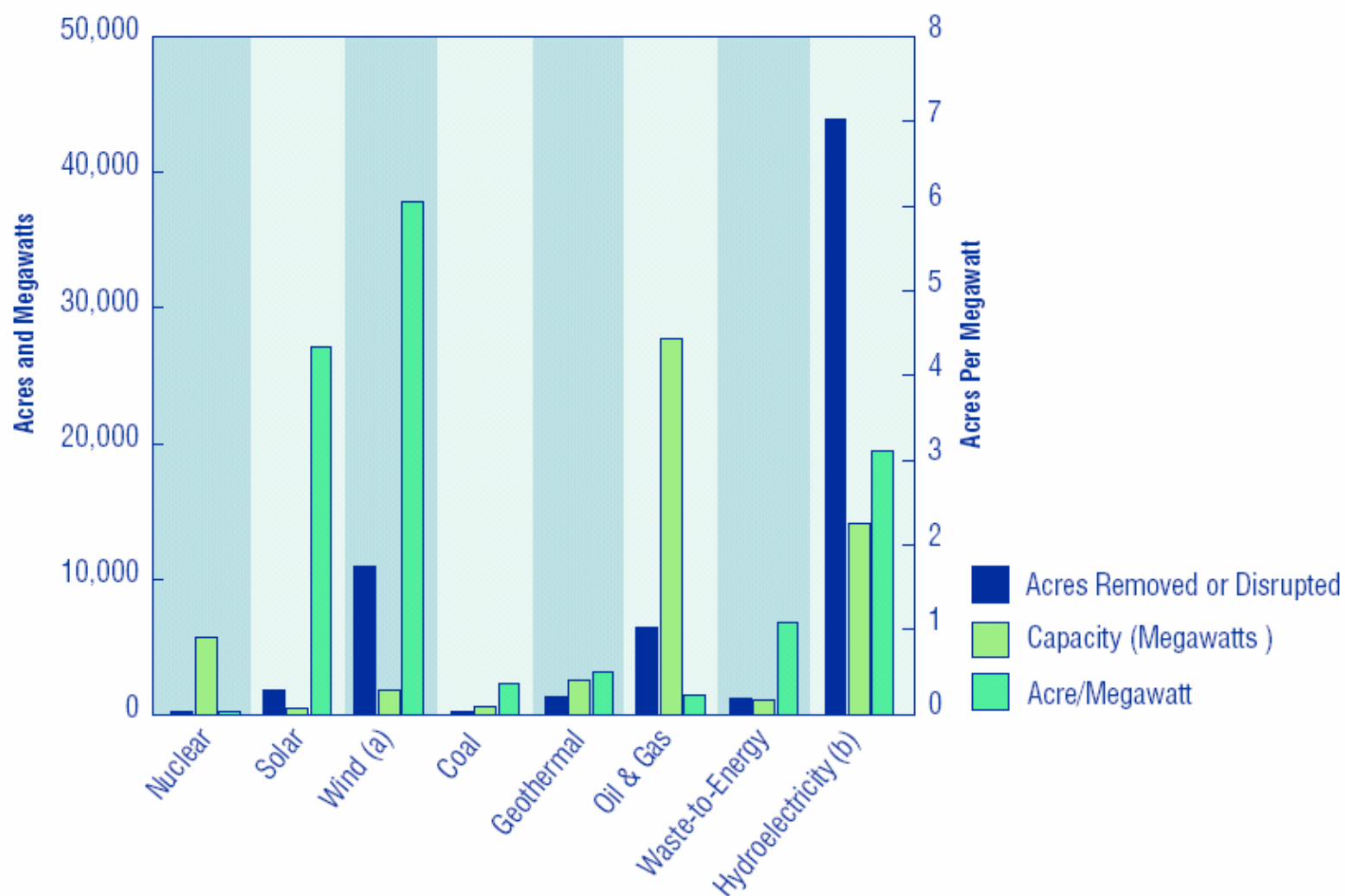
## CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS



# CALIFORNIA ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION



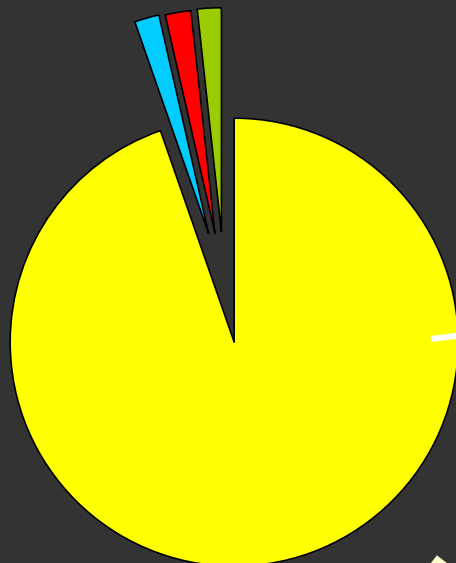
**Figure III-6 Acres of Habitat Removed or Disrupted**



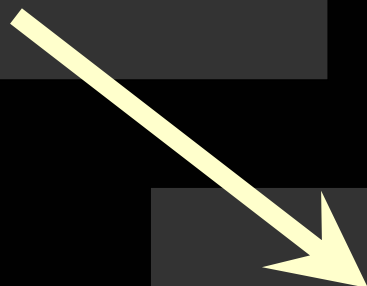
(a) Wind farms disrupt, but do not eliminate, most wildlife habitat values. Wind turbines harm birds in areas like Altamont Pass.

(b) The 43,862 acres shown is the land area flooded by PG&E reservoirs only. It is a representative figure used to illustrate land and aquatic habitats eliminated by hydroelectric facilities. The total number is substantially higher. The MW capacity figure is for all California hydro production. The addition of all hydroelectric facilities acreage would increase the number of acres needed per megawatt. The efficiency number for PG&E's hydroelectric system is 11.2 acres/MW.





**Hydropower**



**Fish and Wildlife Habitat**

**Recreation**

**Water Quality**



# FERC Relicensing Process

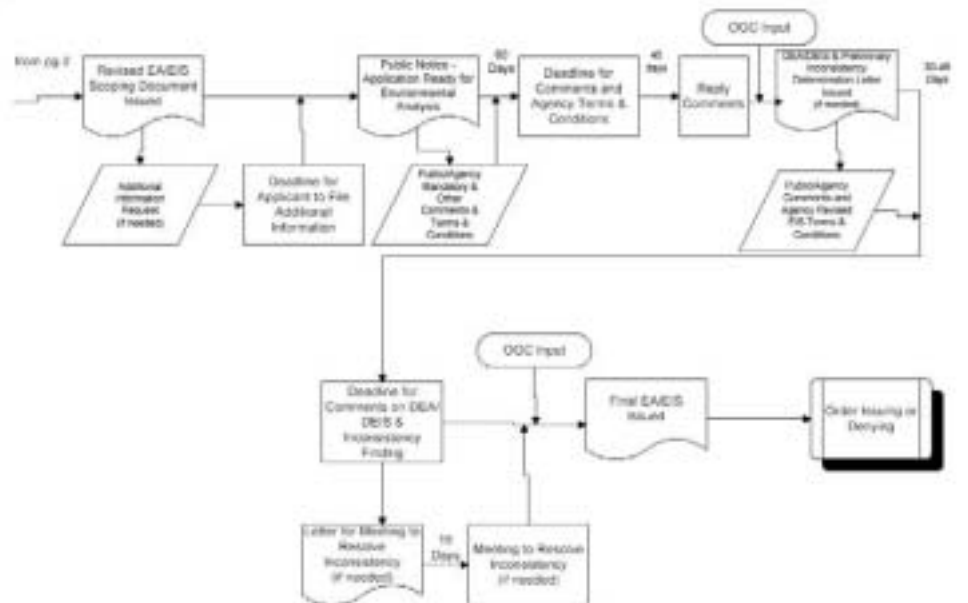
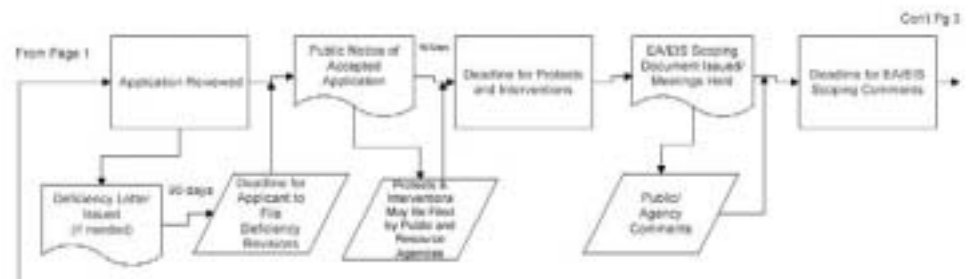
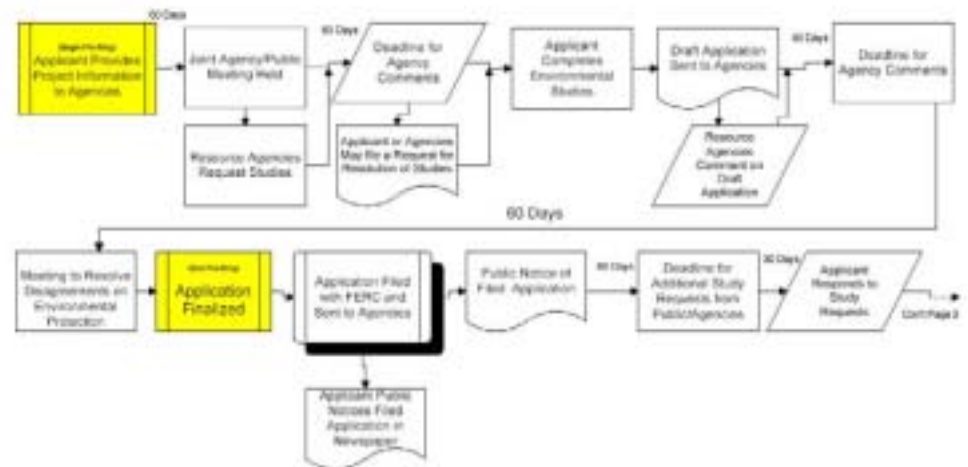
Five years, every 30-50

Comprehensive  
baseline and mitigation  
studies

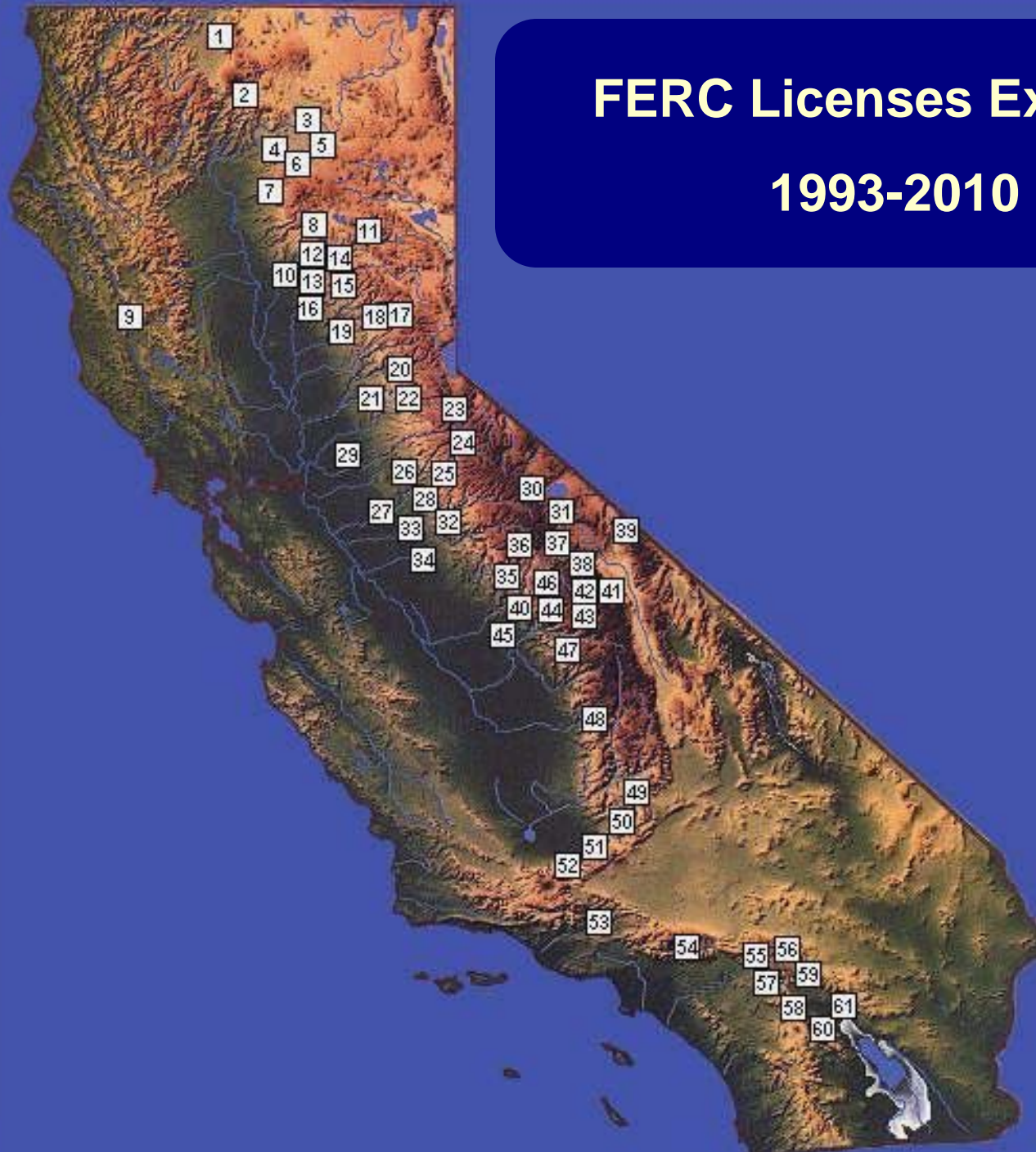
“Equal consideration”

Water quality, public  
lands, fish passage

Possibility of  
collaboration and  
settlement



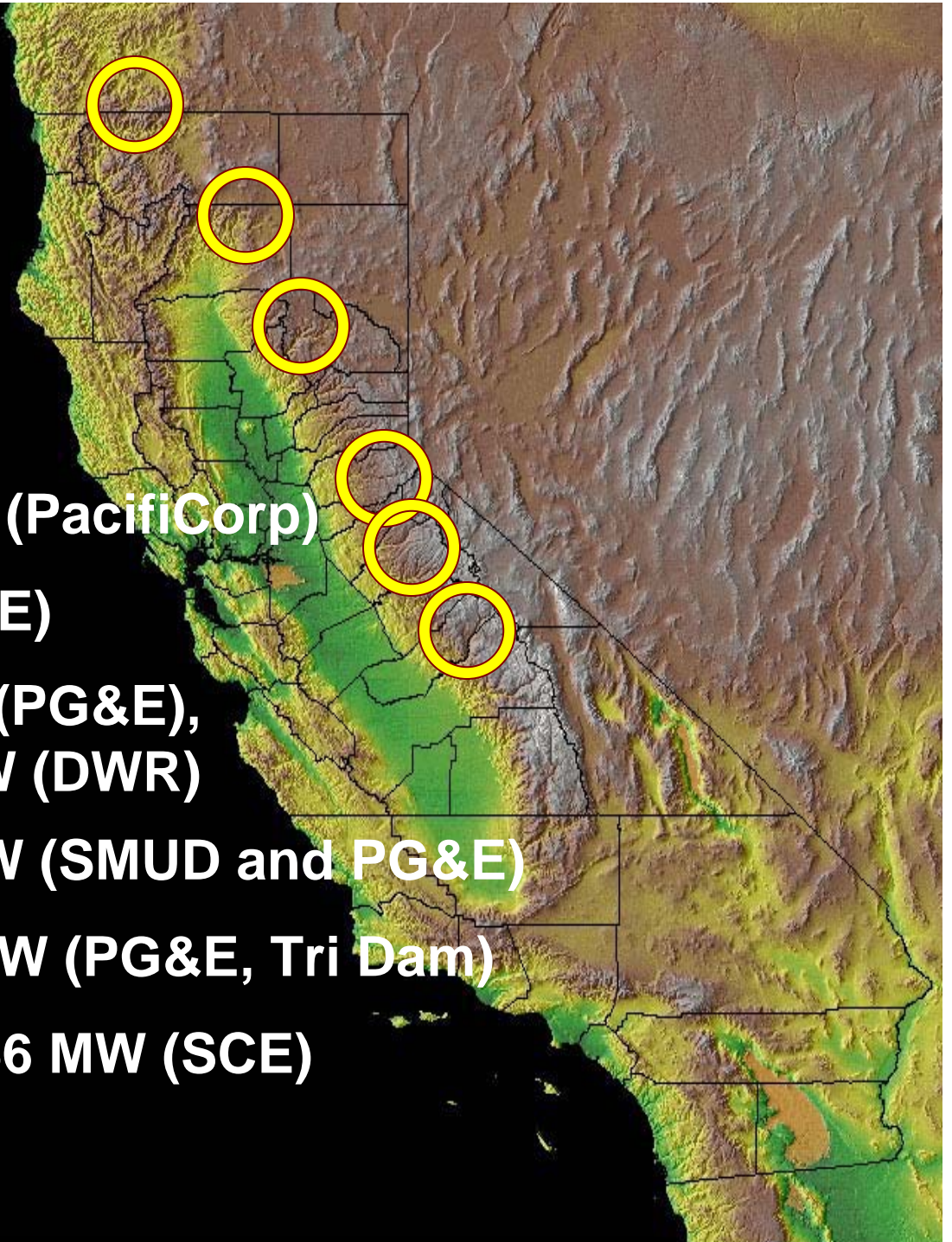
# FERC Licenses Expiring 1993-2010





# Major Ongoing Relicensings in California

- Klamath River - 160 MW (PacifiCorp)
- Pit River - 317 MW (PG&E)
- Feather River - 664 MW (PG&E),  
2,166 MW (DWR)
- American River - 729 MW (SMUD and PG&E)
- Stanislaus River - 257 MW (PG&E, Tri Dam)
- San Joaquin River - 1,166 MW (SCE)

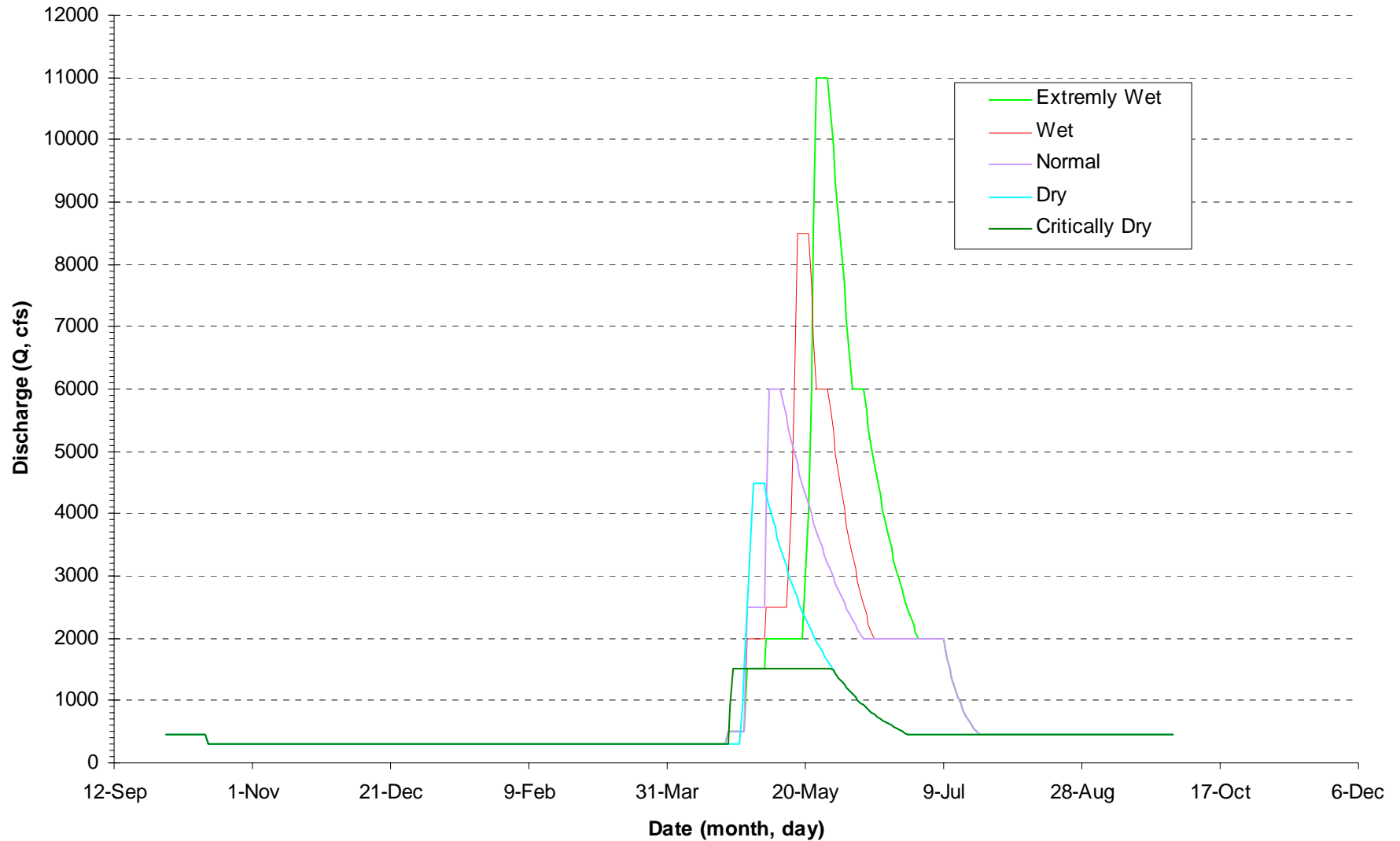


# Relicensing outcomes

- CHRC goals include:
  - ◆ restored hydrograph
  - ◆ fish passage
  - ◆ temperature and water quality
  - ◆ watershed restoration
  - ◆ compatible recreation
- Specific to each proceeding, depending on resources, economics, technical feasibility

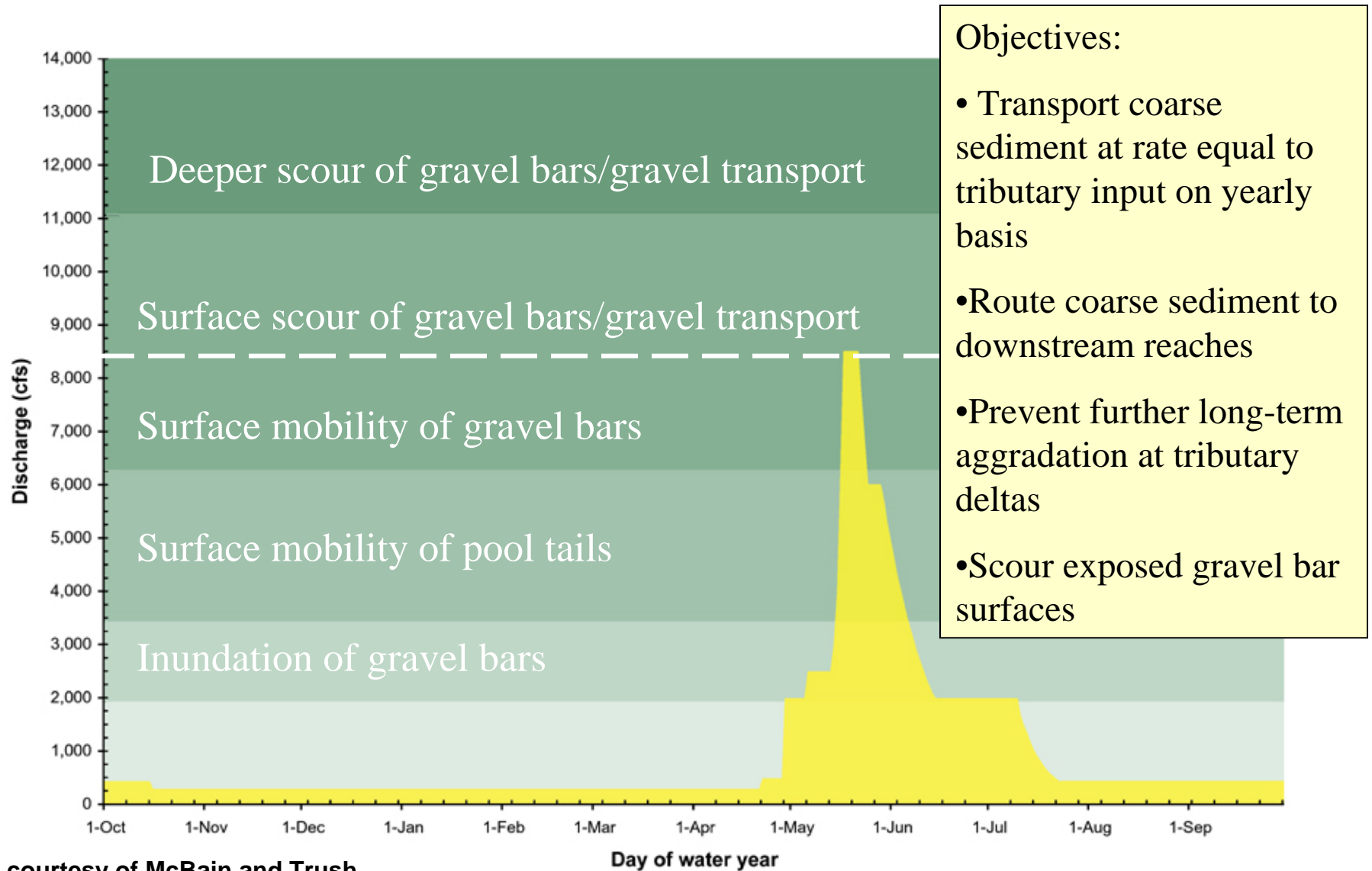
Slide courtesy of McBain and Trush

# Develop Flow Releases for Individual Water Years



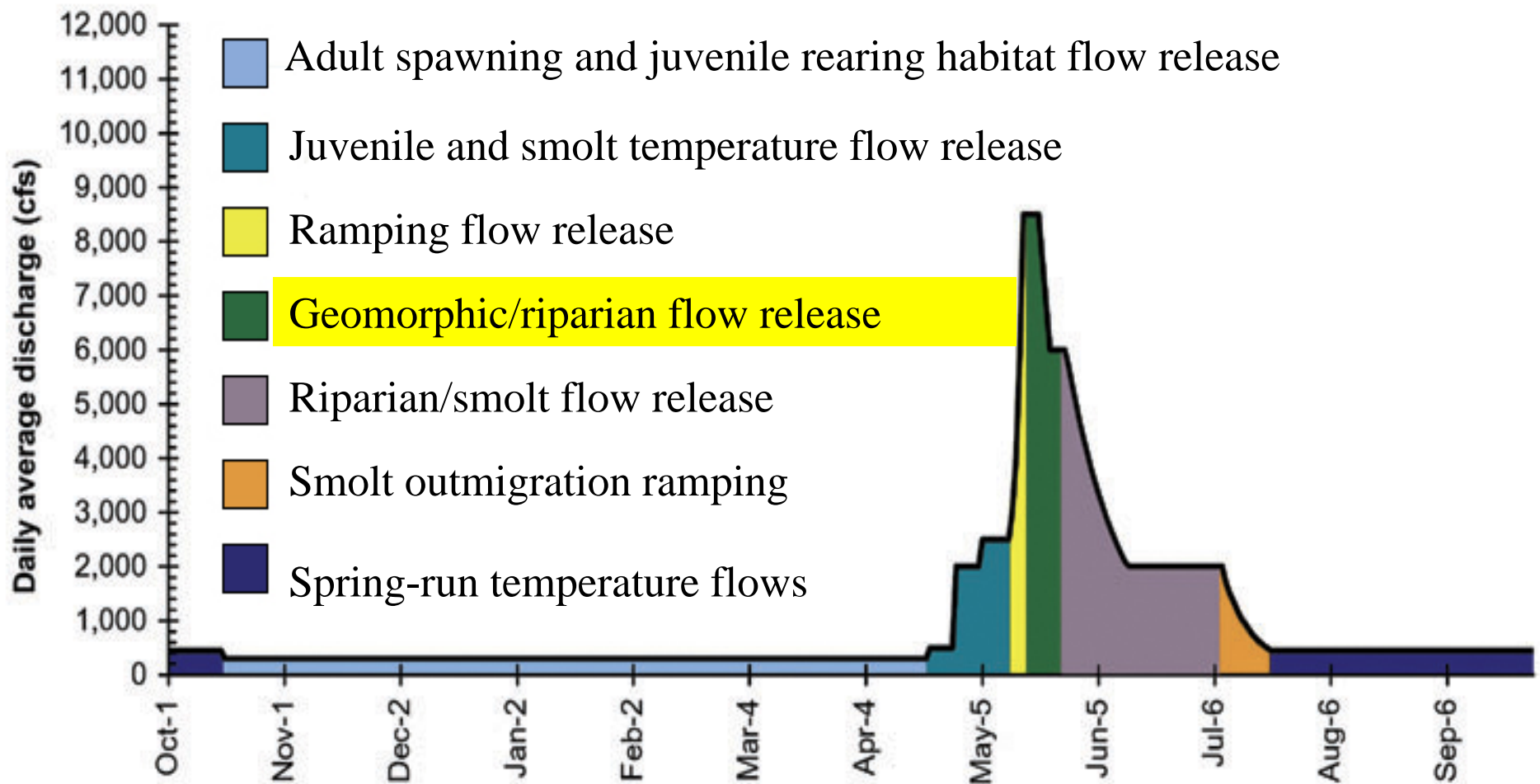


# "Normative Hydrograph": Geomorphic Objectives

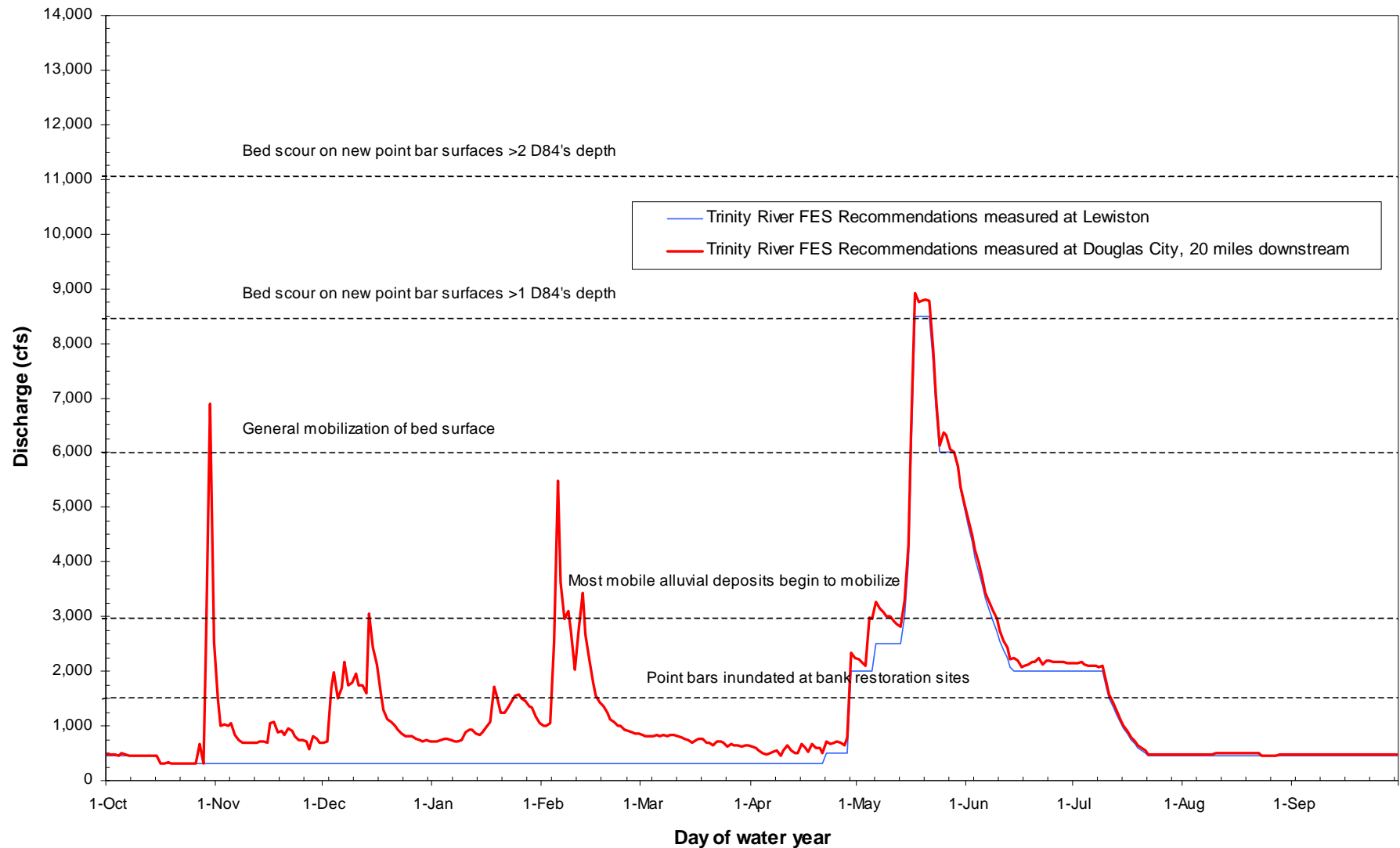


Slide courtesy of McBain and Trush

# “Normative Hydrograph”: Fishery Objectives



# Reconstructed Hydrograph Combining Dam Releases with Tributary Flows



Slide courtesy of McBain and Trush



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# **FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426**

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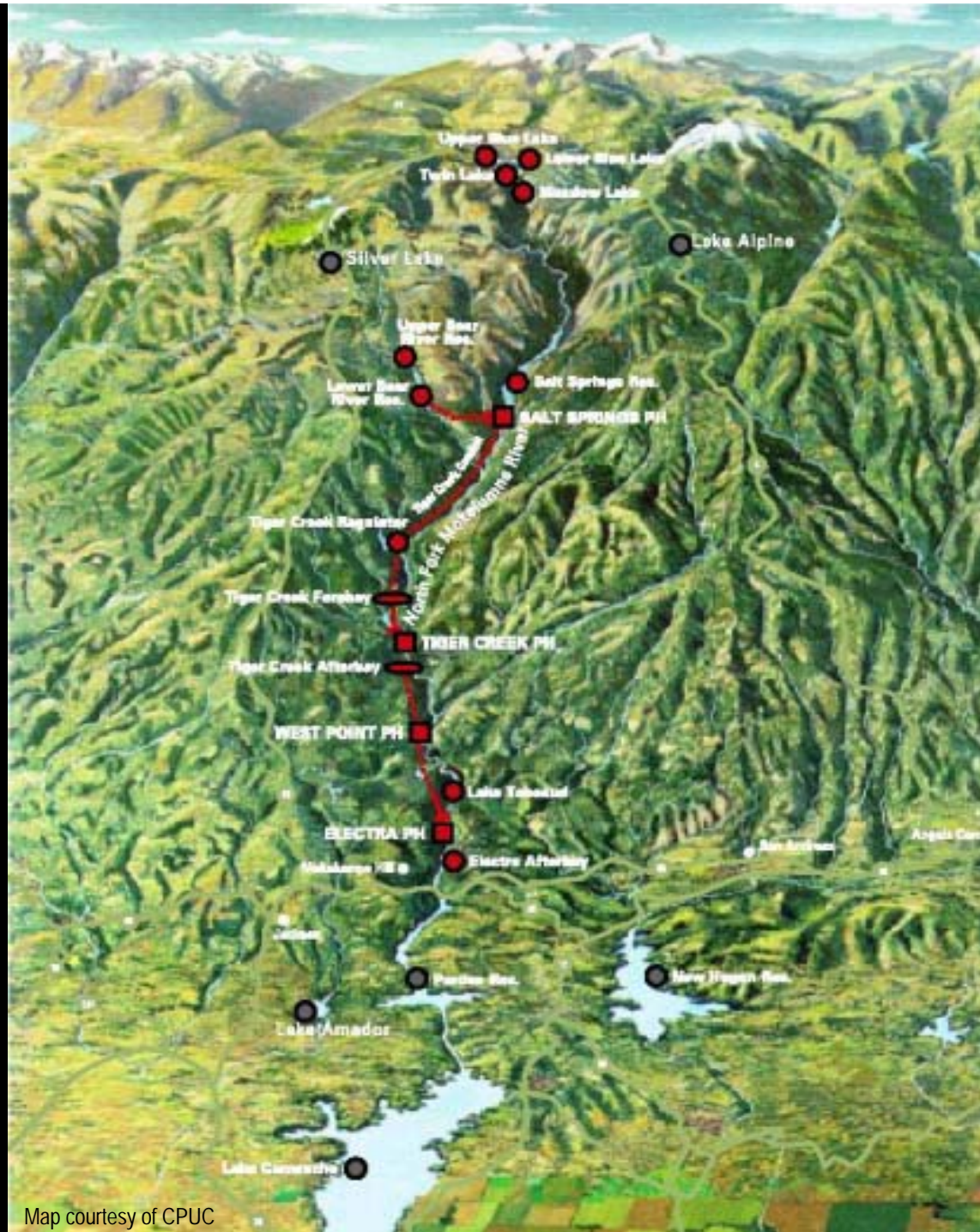
**NEWS RELEASE**

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**15 year average net reduction in energy  
output due to relicensing: 1.6%**

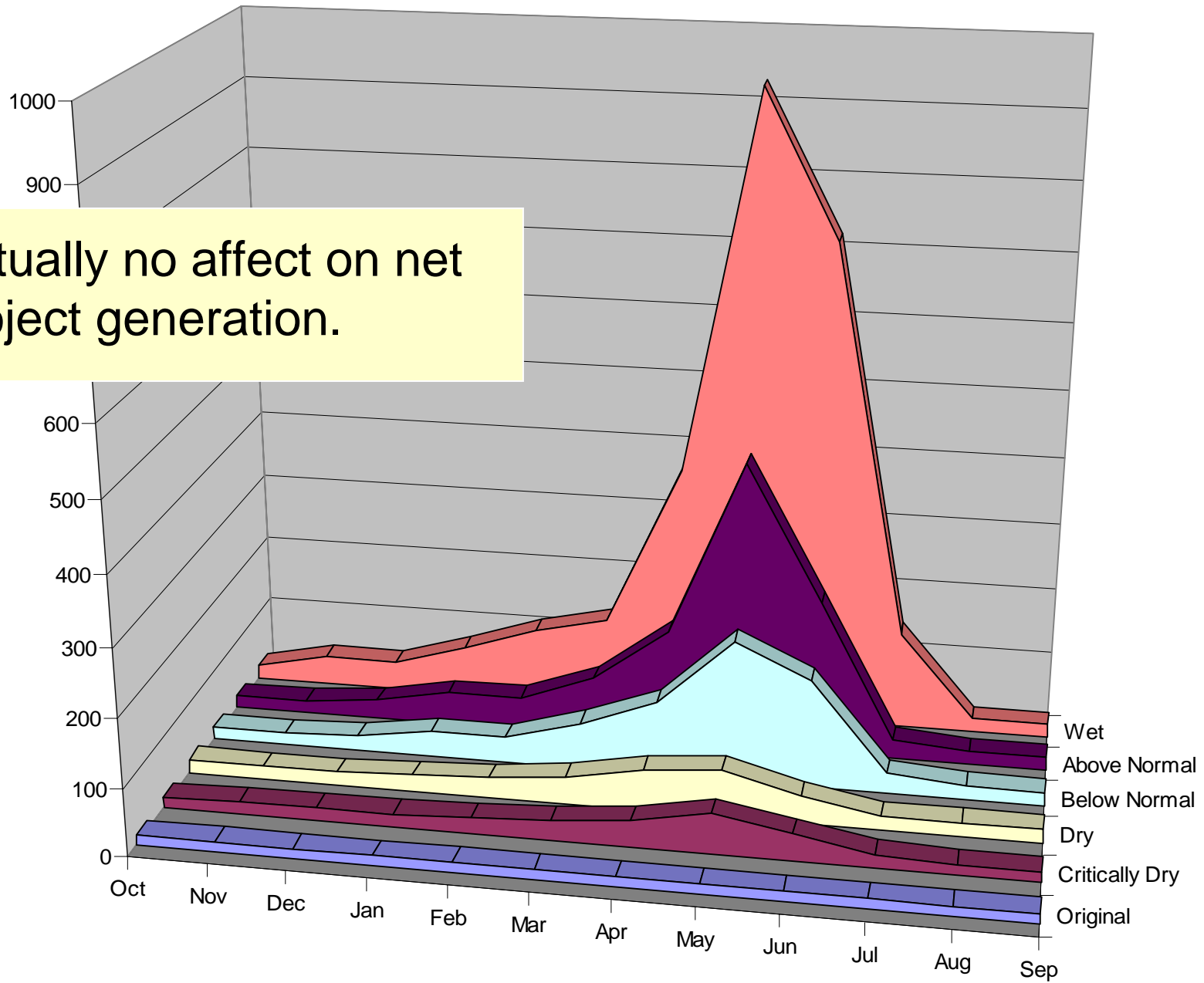
Source: FERC 603 Report to Congress, 2001



Map courtesy of CPUC

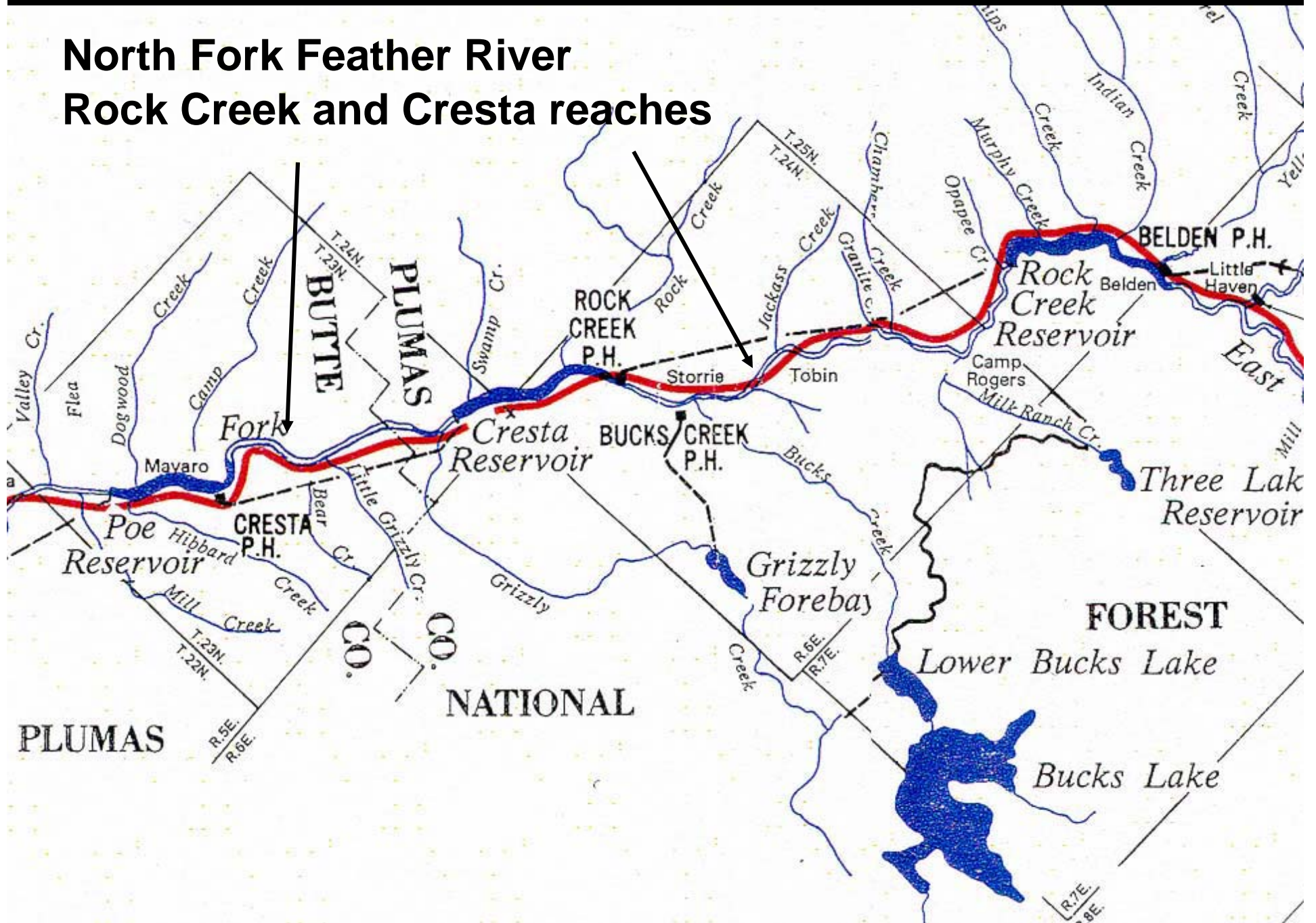
### North Fork Mokelumne Below Salt Springs

Virtually no affect on net project generation.

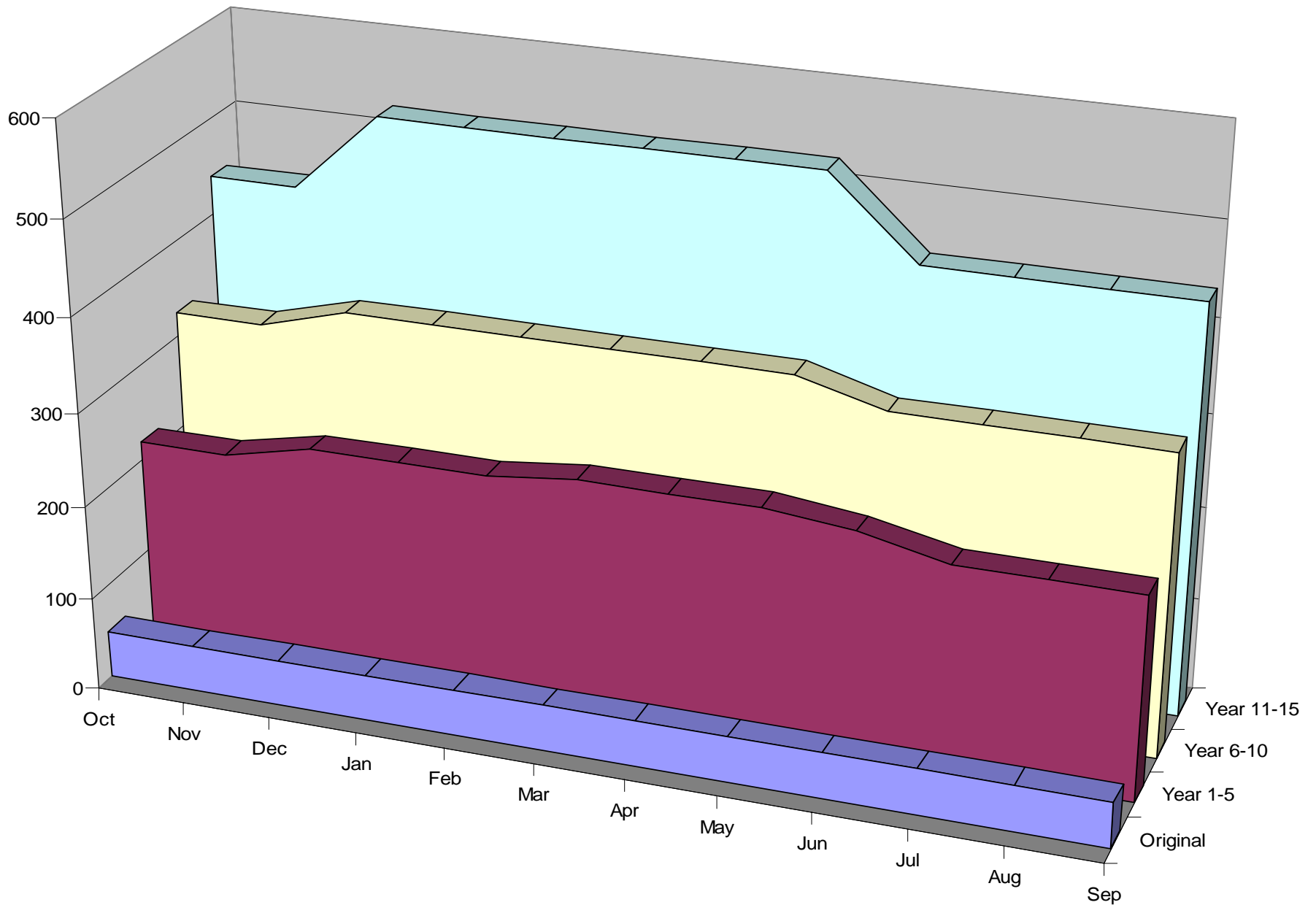




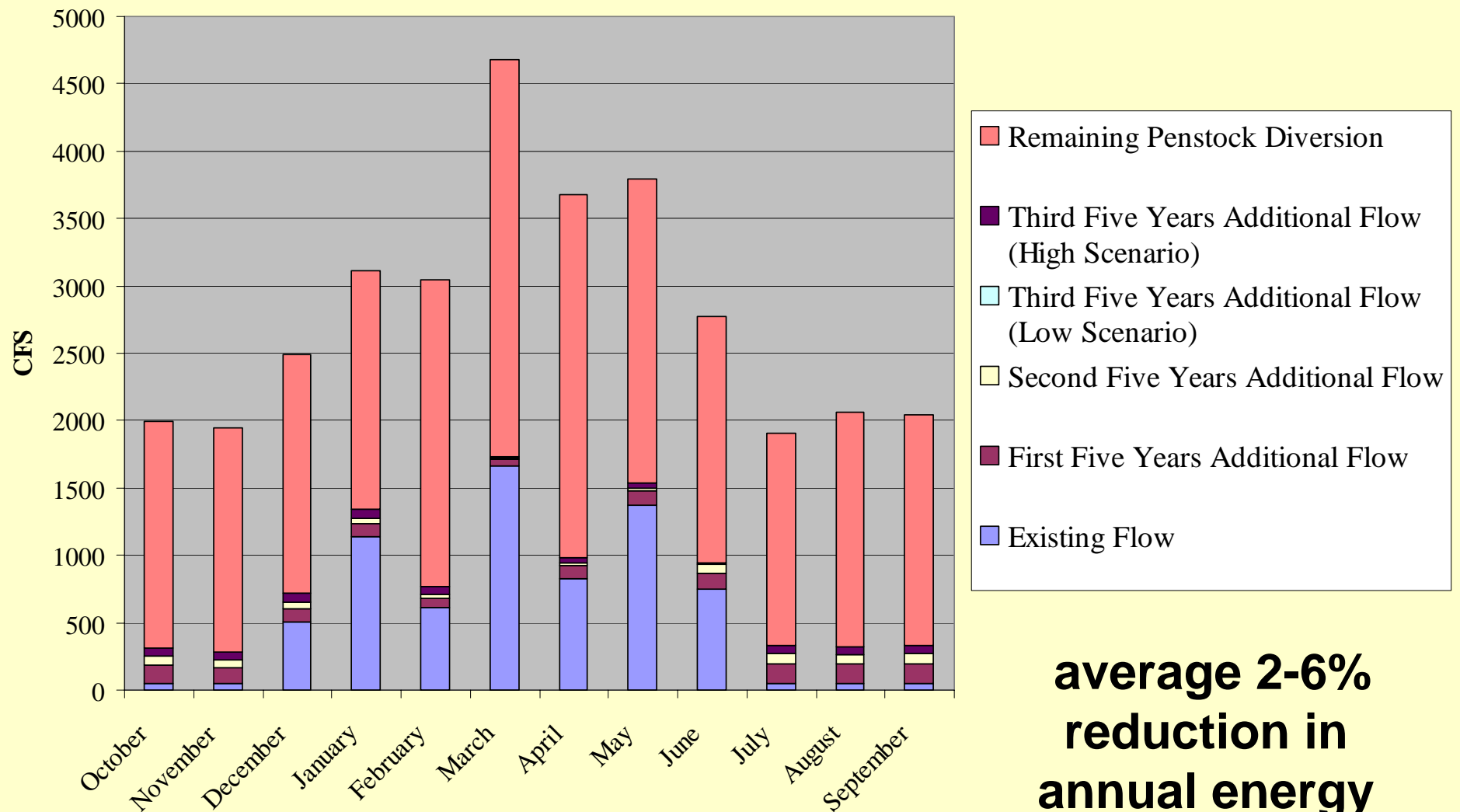
# North Fork Feather River Rock Creek and Cresta reaches



# North Fork Feather below Cresta Dam



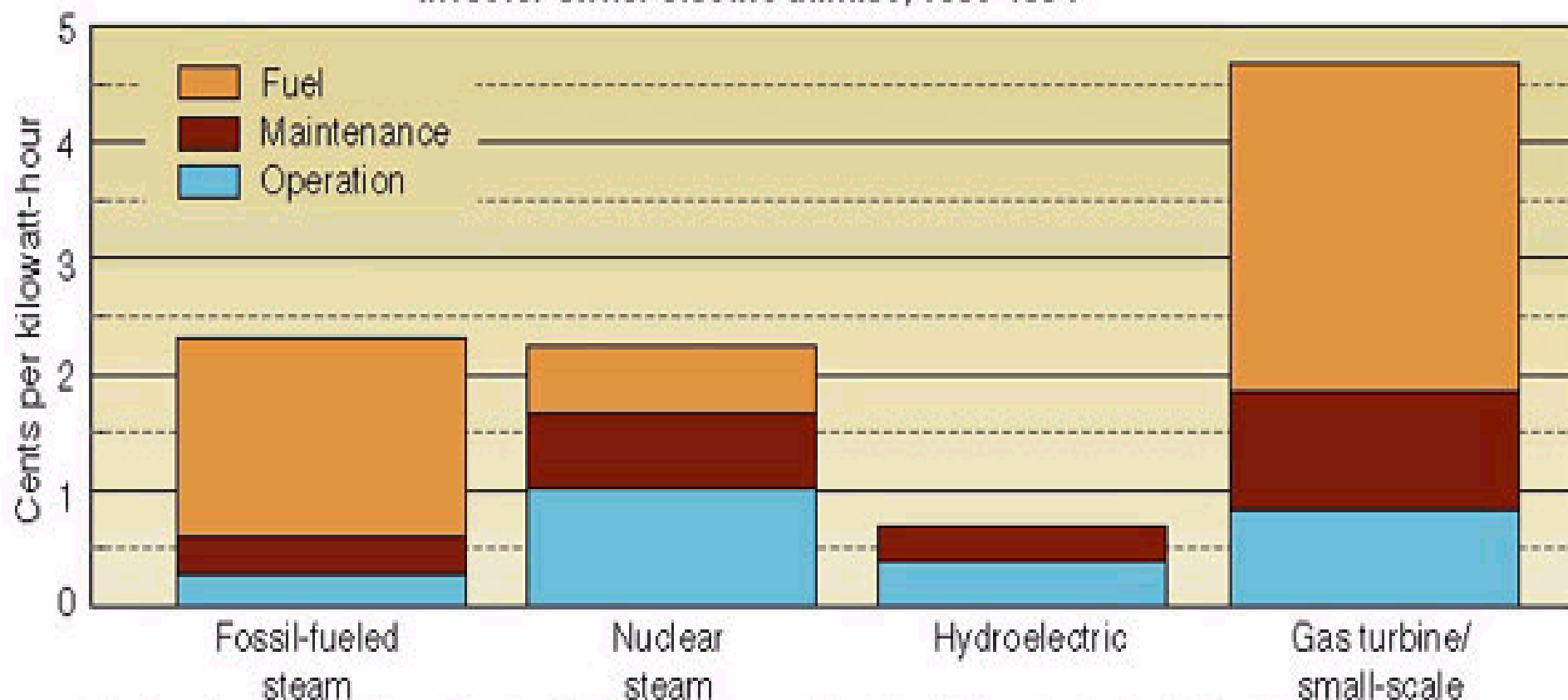
## North Fork of the Feather at Cresta Monthly Average River Flows and Penstock Diversions





## Average per KWh Power Production Expenses

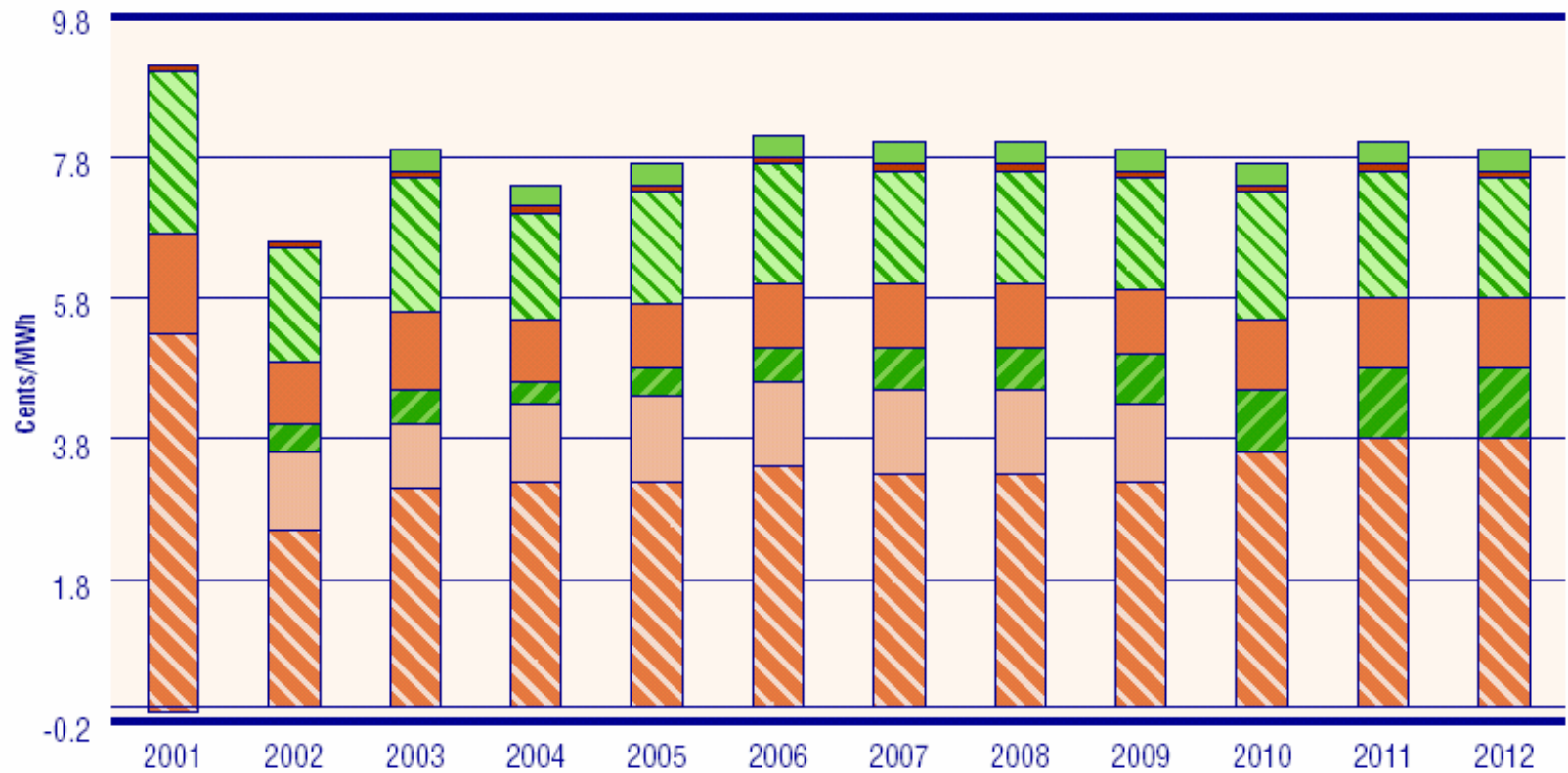
Investor-owner electric utilities, 1990-1994



Note: Operation expenses include rent. Hydroelectric includes pumped storage. Small-scale includes internal combustion, wind, and solar.

Source: EIA/DOE, *Financial Statistics of Major U.S. Investor-Owned Electric Utilities*, 1994, Table 14.

Figure III-2-5  
**PG&E Generation Cost Components (\$ Nominal)**



	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Utility Debt	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other Utility Contracts	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Utility QF Contracts	2.3	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.7
Utility Plants	1.4	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
Spot Market	-0.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0
DWR Financing	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
DWR Contract	5.3	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.8

Source: Energy Commission Staff

Table I-2

**Expected Net New  
Generation Additions**

Year	Status	New Generation
2002	Construction	2,538
	Financing	0
	Commission Review	0
	Renewables	165
	Sub Total	2,703
2003	Construction	2,997
	Financing	77
	Commission Review	391
	Renewables	55
	Sub Total	3,520
2004	Construction	2,687
	Financing	1,070
	Commission Review	360
	Renewables	0
	Sub Total	4,117
2002-04	Total MW	10,340

**Assume 16%  
capacity reduction at  
relicensed utility  
hydro:**

**580 MW reduction**

***by 2040***







Photo by Kevin Lewis

# CHRC

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[www.calhrc.org](http://www.calhrc.org)

American Rivers  
American Whitewater  
California Outdoors  
California Sportfishing  
Protection Alliance  
California Trout  
Foothill Conservancy  
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